

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PDW PROGRAM STAFF GUIDANCE

Guidance Title: RESPONSE TO PRIVATE WELL INQUIRIES

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Action on inquiries received by Field Operations Division Water Program personnel concerning private wells will be generally limited to the distribution of appropriate handouts and "on phone" technical assistance only with the following exceptions:

1. Letters received from physicians requesting "on-site" investigation and sampling for coliform bacteria or for specific chemical contamination. Contact the Public Drinking Water Section, Water Supply Division, for assistance in determining an appropriate lab (TCEQ Houston lab, TCEQ certified lab, or contract lab) for chemical analyses. A TCEQ certified lab should be used for bacteriological analyses.
2. Requests from the TCEQ staff or State legislator for an "on-site" investigation.

Note: Complaints concerning contamination from leaking underground petroleum storage tanks, industrial discharges, or landfills should be referred to Field Operations Division Waste Program personnel for investigation. Also, the private well owner should be referred to the local field office of the Railroad Commission if an inquiry involves alleged contamination from oil wells, gas wells or any related pipelines


Handouts available for distribution to private well owners include:

- Private Well Disinfection and Water Sampling; TCEQ Publication
- Is Your Drinking Water Safe?; EPA Publication
- Individual Home Water Supplies; TCEQ Publication

END

September 2, 2003
Effective Date

Expiration Date


Buck Henderson, Section Manager
Public Drinking Water Section
Water Supply Division

If no formal expiration date has been established for this staff guidance, it will remain in effect until superseded or canceled.